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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SAKAMOTO Examiner: O. Nadav
Serial No.: 09/208,105 Group Art Unit: 2811
Filed: November 25, 1998 Docket: 10233.81USW1
Confirmation No.: 7685 Notice of Allow. n/a
Due Date: June 3, 2004 Date:
Title: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE WITH METAL WIRE LAYER MASKING

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 372668645 US
Date of Deposit: April 15, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Teresa Anderson
Name: Teresa Anderson

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

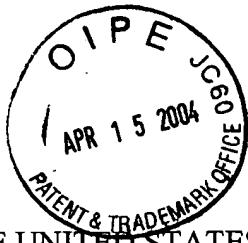
We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 17 Reference(s), Copy of European Search Report
- Check in the amount of \$180 for the IDS filing fee
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Curtis B. Hamre
Name: Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No.: 29,165
CBH/pjk



S/N 09/208,105

PATENT

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By: *Teresa Anderson*
Name: Teresa Anderson

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. The references were recently cited in a European Search Report mailed March 2, 2004.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 or after any other action that closes prosecution on the application, but before the payment of the issue fee. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). This statement is submitted as certified below under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2) by the undersigned.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) or §1.97(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application within three months of filing this statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

The following is a list of Japanese references and their English equivalents.

JP 54-53873	US 4,134,778	JP 62-54961	EP0 213 972
JP 2858404	US 5,169,793	JP 2-196471	US 5,025,293
JP 4-229661	US 5,169,793	JP 2526653	US 5,025,293

An English abstract has been provided for all other Japanese references.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612)332-5300

By: Curtis B. Hamre
Curtis B. Hamre
Reg. No.: 29,165

Dated: April 15, 2004

CBH/pjk

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 10233.81USW1	Application Number: 09/208,105
		Applicant: SAKAMOTO	
		Filing Date: November 25, 1998	Group Art Unit: 2811

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,134,778	January, 1979	Sheng, et al.			
	4,682,195	July, 1987	Yilmaz			
	5,025,293	June, 1991	Seki			
	5,169,793	December, 1992	Okabe, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	54-53873	April, 1979	Japan				
	62-54961	March, 1987	Japan				
	0 213 972	March, 1987	EPO				
	62-298120	December, 1987	Japan			Abstract	
	64-19771	January, 1989	Japan			Abstract ,	
	1-287965	November, 1989	Japan			Abstract	
	2-196471	August, 1990	Japan				
	3-259537	November, 1991	Japan			Abstract	
	4-229661	August, 1992	Japan				
	2526653	June, 1996	Japan				
	2858404	December, 1998	Japan				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		Esaki, et al., "A 900 MHz 100 W VD-Mosfet with Silicide Gate Self-aligned Channel", International Electron Devices Meeting. Technical Digest, December 1984, pages 447-450
		Akiyama, et al., "Partial Lifetime Control in IGBT by Helium Irradiation Through Mask Patterns", Power Semiconductor Devices and ICS, 1991. International Symposium on Baltimore, MD, USA 22-24 April 1991, New York, NY, USA, IEEE, US, April 22, 1991, pages 187-191

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.